



STAKEHOLDER GROUP MEETING – SYNOPSIS

MEETING DATE: 9/22/08

ATTENDEES: COUNCILMEMBER PETE CONSTANT, CHAIR

MEMBERS: LORIE BIRD, ELIZABETH BRIERLY, BOB BROWNSTEIN, YOLANDA CRUZ, PAT DANDO, ERNIE GIACHETTI, CHARLES JONES, MICHELLE LEW, DAVE PERSSELIN, ED RAST, JAN SCHNEIDER, RANDY SEKANY, SUZANNE WOLF

ABSENT: CARL COOKSON, PATRICIA GARDNER, HOOSHANG HOMARA, JOSHUA HOWARD, BOBBY LOPEZ, STEVE MOORE, JEFF RUSTER, BUU THAI, KEN WILLEY

STAFF: DEBRA FIGONE, CITY MANAGER, HARRY MAVROGENES, REVEVELOPMENT AGENCY, JANE LIGHT, CITY MANAGER'S LIAISON.

Welcome/Introductions

- Councilmember Constant called meeting to order by welcoming and thanking the Stakeholder Group for all of their hard work to date. The scope of the Stakeholder Group was to provide advantages and concerns about strategies identified by Management Partners and new ideas to solve the general fund structural deficit. The conversations have been enlightening, helpful and informative.
- City Manager Figone introduced the draft strategy matrix which is a great opportunity to review and asses what the Stakeholder Group has accomplished since the start of this process. It will help in evaluating where there is strong alignment/agreement and consider what could make a particular strategy more viable.

Matrix and Categorization of Strategies (attached)

- Staff attempted to assign one or more of eight categories that represent the Stakeholder Group's reactions to specific strategies. The goal is to review and confirm that the strategies are categorized correctly.
- Note: The attached matrix includes all edits made at the meeting by the Stakeholder Group. This matrix will be presented to Council on October 21st and included in the General Fund Structural Deficit Elimination Plan Final Report.

Opportunities for Additional Input

- October 21 - City Council Meeting (update on the Three Year Structural Deficit Elimination Plan)

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- December 5 – Council Study Session - Three Year the General Fund Structural Deficit Elimination Plan
- January 24 – Youth and Neighborhood Priority Setting Session

City Manager Debra Figone and Redevelopment Agency Director Comments

- City Manager Figone appreciated Stakeholder Group's attention and devotion to the City. Even if some of the Stakeholder Group's strategies do not become a part of the Structural Deficit Elimination Plan, the dialogue has been valuable. Things will get more difficult because the economy is sluggish. City Manager Figone will continue to work on improving productivity and the restructuring service delivery. Many of the problems are systemic not technical, and will take time and work to solve.
- Harry Mavrogenes was pleased to be a part of this process and feels that this has been a great learning experience. Economic Development activities work to help increase funding for the City. RDA tries to work with the City to align priorities. The coming years will be tough because RDA has lost \$13 million in funding as part of the State budget that was just approved and may lose more in years to come.

Stakeholder Group Comments

- We need an independent lobbyist in Sacramento to protect the City legislatively.
- Need to identify ideas and prioritize them.
- Need a group more representative of the City's diversity next time it puts together such a task force.
- Once Core City Services are defined and prioritized we should look into private sponsorship.
- It is hard to make change with a flawed system of government finance. There is no easy solution but somehow we have to bring differing values into some common ground.
- Stakeholder Group members would like feedback on what happens with the Structural Deficit Elimination Plan.
- It's encouraging to know that most of the strategies brought forth by the Stakeholders had general consensus.
- City should try to grow its business community to solve the budget deficit.
- Appreciates professionalism of Stakeholder Group.
- City should make better use of volunteers. Should think about what services the City should outsource.
- Are there some services that the City could run like enterprises?
- Groups like these start to build trust between tax payers and government.

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- Need to look at how we compare to other local cities.
- To retain businesses need to be able to provide great city services. San Jose has not shared in the success of Silicon Valley in proportion to our population. City needs to be more 'business-friendly'.

Closing comments: Councilmember Constant acknowledged Mayor Chuck Reed's leadership and efforts in bringing focus to the City's budget deficit. He thanked Stakeholder Group for all their efforts and input in this process. As a token of appreciation, Councilmember Constant secured the City box at the Shark Tank for the November 8th and January 15th games.

**** Stakeholder Group:** Please RSVP to Rhovy.Cansino@sanjoseca.gov to secure your preferred date of attendance.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.